

The
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PUC Says They Will Save Money Under a New Fuel Contract Supreme Court Says That the Contract was Illegally Negotiated, Grants a TRO

By **BILL JAYNES**
The Kaselehlie Press

Palikir, Pohnpei – Pohnpei Utilities Corporation says that it has been having difficulties with Mobil Oil of Micronesia, Inc. since March of 2007 when the company announced that it was changing the terms of its contract. At that time MOMI told PUC, then under the leadership of General Manager Marcellino Actouka that the duration of their fuel supply contract would be through the end of June 30, 2007, that they would not extend two more weeks of credit to the Utility, and that all fuel must be purchased on a pre-pay basis.

Pohnpei was abuzz with rumors of Mobil's eminent closure and what would surely be an energy

disaster of epic proportions that would begin the first day of July. The disaster never occurred and the fuel supplier renewed the contract for two more quarters with the last quarterly extension ending on December 31.

PUC's attorney Joe Phillip in recent court documents said that it was only after constantly calling MOMI for a further extension that the fuel supplier granted them another 30 days.

MOMI said in its arguments that it has been in negotiations for over a year to sell their assets to the FSM Petroleum Corporation now known as PetroCorp. They say it went to shortened contract lengths in order to quickly facilitate the transfer if it ever hap-

pens. They are ostensibly waiting for Pohnpei State to agree to the arrangement. No one knows if Pohnpei State will ever agree.

Depending on whose version of the facts you follow, PUC's attorney or their bid committee, a Request for Proposal for diesel was sent to six fuel suppliers on December 11 or 13 including Mobil Oil Micronesia, Inc. What became known as the RFB (Request for Bid) document was 32 pages long and called for fuel suppliers to bid for supply of diesel to PUC for the period of one year. PUC estimated that it would use approximately 2.8 million gallons of fuel in that time.

PUC is required by law, for ex-

penditures over \$25,000 to issue a request for bids and to take the lowest responsible bid from among them. PUC followed the law when they issued the RFB for diesel.

According to a January 30 ruling by FSM Supreme Court Justice Andon L. Amaraich, PUC ran afoul of the law when they began outside negotiations with a third party for supply of fuel to the Utility. In his order he said, "It is not in dispute that the January 11, 2008, contract was entered into in violation of Pohnpei state law."

On January 15 Brian Bamba, Commercial Manager for MOMI wrote a letter to PUC General Manager Nixon Anson expressing his concern that the RFB process had been circumvented by a rumored agreement with a third party vendor prior to the announced date for bid openings.

Anson responded on the 16th and said that PUC had signed what he called an "MOU" (Memorandum of Understanding) with another supplier. He said that the bid process was still ongoing and that the signing of the MOU "was to secure 'open competition' that would otherwise be lost because of hostile maneuvering."

He said that he was not at liberty to discuss the details of the MOU because the bid process was still going on. Essentially he told Bamba that if MOMI submitted a "much preferential offer" they would get the contract. He said that the MOU that PUC signed was not exclusive unlike the contract they had with MOMI.

Bamba underlined in his letter, "I would like to stress that we are still interested in your reliable supply but in a manner that will provide open competition for all."

See "Restraining Order" on Page 8

Building Attacks Speeding Car



Photo by Nigel Jaynes

On Friday, January 29 this car which according to witnesses was driven at a high rate of speed slammed into, not the front but the side of Robert Nakasone's Store at around 2:00 in the afternoon. The store is at least twenty five feet from the road. Police say the driver of the car was Mike Dima. He was taken across the street to Genesis Island Family Clinic for treatment of his injuries. At the time this picture was taken police were baffled about how the car was able to hit the side wall of the store with enough force to crush the front end of the car and destroy concrete blocks in the wall. They said they didn't see skid marks in the parking lot.

PPA and PMS Still At Loggerheads

By **BILL JAYNES**
The Kaselehlie Press

Palikir, Pohnpei – For several years Pohnpei Port Authority has been trying to collect payment from Pohnpei Marine Services for fees they say are owed to them. PMS is a sole proprietorship business owned by Timakio Ehsa. The company serves as a ship's agent and makes its living by charging vessels who utilize their services. All ships that enter the port must have an agent to handle their fees and the logistical details while they are in port. PMS pays for port fees and other details and then charges the ship's owner for its services.

Over the years, PMS has filed multiple law suits against the Port saying that PPA has denied entry to the port for some of its clients. PPA says that while they have delayed entry for some vessels whose accounts were delinquent they have not denied entry to the Port to any of PMS's clients.

PMS through its attorneys over the history of their court struggles has asserted that PPA's heavy handed enforcement of a rule that says that port entry fees must be paid within 30 days has nearly driven them out of business. It has said in the past that it cannot reasonably collect the money due to it from its clients within 30 days and they should not be charged interest for overdue fees.

The situation has seen PMS and PPA in court both on the State and National levels many times since it first began.

On January 2, 2008, however PMS stipulated to an agreement that said that it would pay \$100,000 of what it owed by January 15. The remaining balance would be paid within 30 days of the first payment. They were to have made the payment by personal delivery to PPA's finance division in Dekehtik, Pohnpei. Interest on the debt was to con-

tinue to accrue at 9% according to FSM Supreme Court Justice Andon Amaraich's Order Vacating a Hearing date on the matter.

On the 16th of January when they had not received a payment, PPA filed at The Supreme Court a notice of non-compliance with the court order that reflected PMS' stipulation. They requested that the Court "schedule a hearing at which Mr. Ehsa will be required to show cause why he should not be held in civil contempt of court and punished accordingly, including imprisonment if necessary, until all money due is paid in full."

Marstella Jack, acting as attorney for PMS filed a motion on January 28 to enlarge the amount of time for her client to respond. She said in her motion that between November 2007 to the 23rd of January PMS paid the port nearly \$240,000. She said that her client needed time to determine whether any of those payments cleared the debt and that it would be a waste of the Court's time to have parties appear for a contempt hearing if in fact the debt had already been cleared.

PPA's lawyer, Mike Sipos filed three days later an opposition to Jack's motion. In his opposition argument he said that PMS has ongoing business with the Port, that they regularly average \$100,000 per month in fees due to the port and the payments were for the ongoing charges. His argument said, "The bottom line in all of this is that PMS has allowed its indebtedness to PPA to linger in the \$500,000 to \$1 million range for some three years now and it is without dispute that Ehsa and PMS have violated the court's order requiring payment of \$100,000 by January 15, 2008. Thus there is no grounds to enlarge time on any basis such that the court should deny that motion and set this matter for the requested hearing without further delay."

He attached to the motion a copy of a subsidiary ledger showing transactions since April 10, 2007 that he says shows that PMS has made no payment on the stipulated judgment.

Along with the request for an order to show cause, Sipos filed thousands of pages of financial documentation to demonstrate that PMS's contention that they could not afford to pay was untrue. He said that he had not filed the items which he obtained by court order from PMS and by a subpoena of bank records because PMS had stipulated to an agreement and that the filing was unnecessary. Defaulting on the stipulation made it necessary to file all of the discovery documents.

According to the summary of the discovery documents filed with PPA's request for an order to show cause, PMS has deposited over \$15 million into its bank account since 2004. The summary documents don't show cash withdrawals, expenses but does show a summary of invoiced receivables at least for the last three years. The summary shows invoiced receivables of over \$2.5 million during the same period of time that the company had deposited over \$11 million into their bank account. There may be a perfectly logical reason for that disparity. PPA says essentially that it only shows them that PMS can afford to pay their fees.

PPA in its filing said, "To assist the court in understanding PMS's financial condition and to establish the judgment debtor's apparent economic well being in contradiction to the assertions repeatedly made in this and several other parallel cases previously pending between these parties, PPA is concurrently filing the financial records produced during post-judgment discovery in this action."

At press time, no ruling had yet been issued on PMS's request for enlargement of time for a hearing on the contempt issue.

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PUC Taking Steps to Eliminate Cash Power Theft

By **BILL JAYNES**
The Kaselehlie Press

Kolonia, Pohnpei – Some customers of Pohnpei Utilities Corporation received an unwelcome surprise when they input their cash power numbers in mid January. The numbers given to those customers for the cash power they purchased didn't work leaving some customers in the dark.

One of those customers was The Kaselehlie Press. There were two sets of numbers on our cash power receipt. The first one, which our keypad gladly accepted was entitled "key change". The second number that would have credited us with the cash power we purchased would not work no matter how many times we tried to enter it.

The Utility, in an effort to stamp out theft of cash power has undertaken to recode cash power meters for all of their cash power customers. Kelly Keller of PUC said that

some cash power customers of PUC had kept their cash power tickets from years past and had been entering previously used numbers. Those numbers sometimes worked giving that customer a cash power credit that had already been used before.

The key change code on the Cash Power receipt that must be entered before the Electricity Credit code essentially blocks the meter from accepting electricity credits that have already been consumed.

Keller said that the utility has already initiated the process for 3000 of the meters of the 6000 in Pohnpei. He said that only 50 of the meters that underwent the key change process handled the encoding improperly and rejected valid cash power codes.

The solution for those 50 customers, at least until PUC was able to permanently solve the problem was to install a temporary mechanical meter in place of the cash



power meter. By the 23rd of January, PUC had reinstalled the cash power meter at The Kaselehlie Press and was doing the same for its other customers across Pohnpei.

Freily Doses of PUC when told that we would call him back if the new numbers he gave us didn't work said, "No need. I know they'll work." They did and it seems that the problem, at least for now is solved.

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Perman Family Moves to Help Senior Citizens at Social Security Time

“It doesn’t always have to be the Government”, says Ferny Perman of the new nahs he is building for Senior Citizens who every month wait in line outside the Social Security Office in Kolonia, Pohnpei. He said, “Even me, when I walk around Pohnpei the sun’s too strong. I just thought it would be nice to do something for people.”

He isn’t looking for congratulations which somehow makes his efforts all the more laudable.

He said that he just decided to do something for the seniors and this is what he came up with.

The nahs, built nearly entirely from local lumber by a local chain saw wielding crew is fast progressing. Once it has its os (thatch) roof it will be a place where senior citizens can sit out of the elements.

The nahs is entirely donated by the Perman family.



Employment Opportunities

College of Micronesia–FSM
Human Resources Office
P.O. Box 159
Kolonia, Pohnpei, FSM 96941
Phone: 691-320-2480 Fax: 691-320-2479

Opening Date: January 15, 2008
Closing Date: February 14, 2008
Location: Pohnpei Campus/PBDC
P.O. Box 614
Kolonia, Pohnpei 96941

Position and Salary: *Business Advisor/Trainer* - 12MF-I-III \$13,910-\$19,604PA “Depending upon qualification”

Class Definition: Under the supervision of the PBDC Coordinator, the Business Advisor/Trainer is responsible for a variety of financial/management advisement, technical assistance, and related business training and counseling services to new and existing small business.

Duties: Provides direct technical assistance to small business clients in the research and development of business plans, marketing plans, loan proposals and related business development requirements; evaluates business proposals together with client financial and business status to assess viability and bank ability of proposals; advises clients as appropriate, advises clients in micro and small business management practices, methods, and techniques; provides advice and assistance in the establishment and maintenance of business and financial records and recordkeeping systems, in compliance with all relevant business, accounting, and taxation laws, regulations, guidelines, and standards; participates in the development, promotion, coordination, and delivery of small business management training programs and workshops; coordinates and/or participates in efforts to build relationships with area businesses to establish and develop contract training opportunities; administers and monitors specific training programs, as assigned, to include budget planning and expenditure management, participates, as assigned, as a member of community groups and organizations to promote local business and economic development within the service area; monitors training, counseling, and operational activities and effectiveness of results and prepares reports as appropriate, performs miscellaneous job-related duties as assigned.

Minimum Qualifications: Bachelor’s degree in Business Administration or related field with at least 2 years of work experience directly related to the duties and responsibilities specified with applicable salary to match. Master’s degree in Business Administration or applicable field is preferred with 2 years of direct work experience and with salary placement to match.

Knowledge of: basic business accounting; records maintenance skills; knowledge of the characteristics and prerequisites of a successful business loan proposal, knowledge and understanding of the principles and practices of small business operations. **Ability to:** gather data, compile information, and prepare reports; ability to develop basic business plans, marketing plans, financial strategies, and business loan proposals; ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing; strong interpersonal and communication skills and the ability to work effectively with a wide range of constituencies in a diverse community; ability to develop and present business training programs and/or workshops; knowledge of national and state financial and tax regulations pertaining to small businesses; skill in the use of personal computer and related software applications.

“Positions are not eligible for housing or transportation benefits”

Position and Salary: *Clerk Typist* - C-6/A \$ 5,538 PA

Class Definition: Under the supervision of the PBDC coordinator, the clerk typist is responsible for all assigned administrative work at the Pohnpei Development Center.

Duties: Improve and maintain excellent and systematic record keeping of student’s/trainees files and office correspondence and documents, assist and provide administrative help to the coordinator and staff in the office, be a receptionist to visitors and students/trainees by providing general information about the center and its programs and services, answer telephone in a courteous manner and be ready to provide needed information, assist the Pohnpei Campus Fiscal Officer in preparing purchase orders, travel authorizations, and vouchers and other administrative documents relating to finance, assist the Pohnpei Campus Fiscal Officer in the procurement procedures, maintain the office in a well organized and professional manner, keep appointments and provide friendly reminders for all staff and assist the staff and trainers with copying of documents, be in charge of all office equipments to ensure they are running smoothly, keep an inventory of office and classroom supplies, materials and equipments and to request replenishment in a timely manner, plan train and supervise work study students or others assigned, be in charge of incoming and outgoing mail, including clearance of goods purchased on and off island, take, make and keep minutes of meeting for advisory council, staff meetings, and PBDC committees, maintain good record keeping for submission to Coordinator, Pohnpei Campus Fiscal Officer and Campus director, may serve on committees, and perform other duties as assigned.

Minimum Qualifications: A high school graduate. Associate degree with emphasis on management or secretarial training preferred. Two years of progressively responsible work experience, which demonstrates competence in assisting in the administrative details of a program/office, must have excellent organizational skills; good English language proficiency, knowledge of basic word processing, spreadsheet and database software, must be assertive, initiative, friendly, courteous and a team worker and must be willing to participate in training to upgrade skills and knowledge.

Contact: Applications are available at the College of Micronesia–FSM Human Resources Office, state campus sites or the college’s website at www.comfsm.fm.

Process: Applicants must submit an interest letter, resume, COM-FSM Employment Application form, official college transcripts and 3 up to date letters of recommendation to Human Resources Office at the address above or send via E-mail to rencelly@comfsm.fm no later than **February 14, 2008**.

Applications will be reviewed immediately following closing.

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CSP Growing; Impacting the Environment and the Future

By **BILL JAYNES**
The Kaselehlie Press

Kolonia, Pohnpei - On January 31 the Conservation Society of Pohnpei (CSP) gathered for its annual meeting. Bill Raynor was the Master of Ceremonies. He said that at the end of its first year CSP's accomplishments were somewhat small. Essentially, during that year, CSP had garnered commitments from a few of the municipalities to clean up trash twice a quarter.

Current Executive Director Patterson Shed who followed Willy Kostka nearly two years ago said that CSP has come a long way since its inauspicious beginnings. Former Director Kostka built the Conservation Society into an organization that was providing real and meaningful value for the conservation of Pohnpei's resources. Patterson Shed, according to Board Chair Eugene Pangelinan has grown into the position. He is continuing in the footsteps of his renowned predecessor.

CSP now has nineteen employees who Shed called "heroes", every one of whom is pulling his or her own weight in the organization in their own specialized areas.

Shed, in his presentation for the evening showed that CSP is not sitting on its laurels but is working every day to be sure that Pohnpei's environment is preserved and conserved. In this small space there is no way that we could list all of the accomplishments and goals of CSP.

Shed pointed out that 16% of species in Pohnpei are endemic species. The slide presentation he gave included a representation of some of Pohnpei's endemic species including: 110 trees, 56 birds, 25 species of terrestrial tree snails, 3 species of fish, and the skink.

He said that Pohnpei has the lowest dwarf cloud forest, the largest intact lowland tropical forest in the Pacific and the largest grouper spawning and aggregation site in the Indo-Pacific region.

Those, among other things, are what CSP is working to preserve.

Besides the presentation of the ongoing work of CSP, one of the highlights of the annual meeting was the presentation of awards.

CSP staffers voted for three recipients for special awards from amongst themselves.

The award for the most innovative employee went to Meileen Albert. Linson Neth earned the award for best attendance and good health. The soft spoken Eugene Joseph, who coordinates the marine conservation programs of CSP won the award for outstanding staff member of the year

Konrad Englberger from the Secretariat of the Pacific Islands won an award as the outstanding partner of CSP. Shed said that Konrad often went into the forest with CSP to be sure that species they said were eradicated actually were eradicated.

Dakio Paul who was unable to attend due to health reasons won the award for outstanding community member for his work at Black Coral. Dakio Paul has been internationally recognized for his work and was the subject of an article published by Conde Naste Magazine.

CSP also recognized the efforts of several community members who helped them to raise over \$2100 at a concert of students from Warren Wilson College in Asheville, North Carolina. The concert was held at the auditorium of Pacific Missionary Fellowship. Tickets were \$10 per person and all proceeds went to CSP. Shed recognized Bob and Patty Arthur of The Village Hotel, Nob Kalau of PMF, Visual Impact and the Vicariate of Pohnpei.

Shed said that CSP has already raised approximately 80% of its budget for 2008, a budget that now stands at approximately \$600,000. The money that has been raised has enabled them to run programs in three areas of conservation: terrestrial, conservation education and awareness, and marine conservation.

There is still more work to be done. Money is not the goal but money helps to make it possible for those that are doing the work to continue doing it.

Contact the Conservation Society of Pohnpei if you think you can help.

FOR SALE BY AUCTION



Pursuant to an order of the FSM Supreme Court entered January 21, 2008, public notice is hereby given that the facilities commonly known as the "AYS Building," located on public land Parcel No. 019-A-32 across the street from the Pohnpei State Government office complex main entrance, will be sold by auction to the highest bidder under the following terms:

- The minimum bid amount is set at \$160,000.00. No bid below this amount will be considered.
- Bids shall be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "AYS Building Auction" by personal delivery to the filing window of the Office of the Chief Clerk of Courts of the FSM Supreme Court – Pohnpei trial division in Palikir.
- The deadline for submitting bids will be 4:00 p.m. on Friday, February 22, 2008.
- All bid submissions must state the full name, mailing address, phone or fax numbers, and e-mail address or other valid contact information for the person submitting the bid.
- The winning bidder will be notified by a duly issued court order transferring title to the building and appurtenant structures on the property (including all stock, inventory, improvements, furniture, fixtures and equipment located on or within the premises - other than that owned by building tenants) upon delivery of a cashier's check in the full amount of the bid payable to the "FSM Supreme Court" no later than 10 days after the order is served.
- If the winning bidder fails to remit payment within the required time, the award will be granted to the next highest bidder and the same conditions will apply.
- The property is offered for sale "as-is" with no guarantees or warranties as to its condition whatsoever.
- The winning bidder will take title subject to any valid lease agreement favoring existing building occupants under the same terms and conditions lawfully in effect at the time of the award.
- The building and improvements subject to this auction are located on leased public land. The winning bidder will receive a court ordered assignment of the current occupant's rights to Parcel No. 019-A-32 for use in applying for a new lease, any award of which will be subject to and determined by the Pohnpei State public land authorities having responsibility for the issuance of such leases.
- This auction is subject to cancellation at any time prior to the entry of the court order designating the winning bidder.

Questions concerning this auction may be directed to the FSM Supreme Court National Justice Ombudsman or the Law Offices of Sipos and Berman, P.O. Box 2069, Pohnpei FM 96941 (phone # (691) 320-6450) attorneys for judgment creditor Bank of Hawaii.

Japan Funds Improvement of the Weno Harbor

Palikir, Pohnpei (Department of Foreign Affairs) - January 25, 2008—President Mori returns from Chuuk where he participated in the Hand Over Ceremony of the recently completed Japanese Grant Aid project, the Improvement of the Weno Harbor. The Handover ceremony took place on 23 January 2008 at the project site in Chuuk. The project broke ground in April 2007 and was completed in December of 2007. The scope of work put into the Harbor improvement included the construction of wave dissipating blocks, the construction of a revetment wall, the reconstruction of the superstructure and concrete curb, replacement of the rubber fenders and the removal of the submerged vessel “MV Nien

Feioch.”

The project was carried out by the contractor Penta Ocean Construction Co., Ltd and was overseen by the Consultant, ECOH Corporation.

In the hand over ceremony President Mori received the project from Mr. Omura, Charge’ d’ affaires of the Embassy of Japan and then turned the project over to the State of Chuuk through Governor Simina. President Mori expressed his deep appreciation to the Japanese Government for the needed project and was pleased with the cooperation involved in the project from all stakeholders and Governments. He expressed his appreciation for the profound relationship between Japan and the FSM and noted the invaluable assistance to the FSM



Photo by Eleazar Rospiel

in the area of infrastructure development.

Over the years, Japan, through its Overseas Development Assistance (ODA) schemes have constructed roads, docks, an electric power plant,

and a passenger cargo vessel for the FSM. Since concluding the Weno Harbor project, the next project in the pipeline from Japan is the Improvement of the Pohnpei International Airport.



Photo by Kester

Secretary for Foreign Affairs Lorin Robert and Japan's Charge d'Affaires ad interim Mr. Toshio Omura sign the agreements at the Department of Transportation Communication and Infrastructure Conference room in Palikir.

Japan Provides 58,000,000 Yen for Pohnpei Airport Improvement

Palikir, Pohnpei (Department of Foreign Affairs) - January 25, 2008 Just two days after the hand over ceremony of the recently completed Weno Harbor Project, a signing ceremony was also held at the FSM Department of Foreign Affairs between the FSM and Japan Government for a grant of 58,000,000 Japanese Yen to be used towards the Detail design phase of the Improvement of the Pohnpei International Airport project. Secretary Lorin Robert signed on behalf of the FSM Government with Mr. Toshio Omura, Charge’ d’ affaires of the Embassy of Japan.

The proposed project scope includes the runway extension, runway safety enhancement, and rehabilitation and expansion of terminal facilities and apron. This is a highly anticipated project that will contribute immensely to the social and economic development of the FSM.

In a short statement, Mr. Omura congratulated the FSM Government and Pohnpei State for being the recipient of the project. Mr. Omura

looks forward to the next phase which is the implementation of the project. He stressed the importance of our two countries continued cooperation to work together. In responding to Mr. Omura, Secretary Robert indicated the Government's deep appreciation for the project and expressed anticipation of the implementation of the project. Secretary Robert reaffirmed the FSM National Government's commitment and support for the project. In attendance was the newly elected Governor of Pohnpei State, The Honorable John Ehsa. Governor Ehsa concluded the ceremony with a toast in honor of the signing ceremony and his support for the Project.

Also present at the signing ceremony were officials from the FSM Department of Foreign Affairs, FSM Department of Resource and Development, FSM Department of Transportation, Communications & Infrastructure, Pohnpei Port Authority, Embassy of Japan and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

CSP Receives Donation for Educational Materials

Embassy of Japan

The Embassy of Japan donated 41,638USD to the local environmental NGO, Conservation Society of Pohnpei (CSP) for the project entitled “Project for Making Environmental Education Material for Primary School Education in Pohnpei” under Japan's Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects. The grant will be used for the printing cost for text books, booklets, and posters for CSP'S environmental education programs for elementary school students and teachers in Pohnpei to promote environmental awareness and to improve the quality of environmental education in Pohnpei.

A signing ceremony for the funding agreement was held at the Embassy of Japan in Pohnpei, FSM on January 28, 2008. Mr. Toshio Omura, Charge’ d’ Affaires ad interim signed on behalf of the Embassy and Government of Japan. Mr. Patterson K. Shed, Executive Director of CSP signed and expressed gratitude and appreciation on behalf of the organization. Other CSP staff members present to witness the ceremony were Ms. Elizabeth Terk, CSP Deputy Director and Mr. Ben Namakin, Program Manager for Environmental Education.

The aim of this project is to integrate environmental education within Pohnpei's existing primary curriculum, to build upon students' awareness and knowledge about the importance of their surrounding environment and to encourage their participation in conservation activities and to inform teachers about environmental issues in order for them to bring up the issues in class with ease. The

environmental education material which will be made by the project are: Environmental Resources and Activity Book for students from 1st to 8th grade, Coloring Books for Head Start students and 1st grade, Teaching Resource books for elementary school teachers, Pohnpei Plant Booklets and Plant posters. Each material will be used for CSP's environmental education programs such as “Youth to Youth in Environmental Awareness and Education Program” and “Green Road Show”.

Environment conservation is one of the Japan's top aid priority areas towards FSM to achieve sustainable development for both people's lives and the economic activities in the country. Embassy of Japan has been closely cooperating with CSP by especially supporting their environmental education and awareness program for youth in Pohnpei so that young generation become more aware of environmental issues and take actions



Photo by Bill Jaynes

Patterson Shed looks on as Charge d'Affaires Ad Interim Mr. Toshio Omura completes the signing of the paperwork for the grant.

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Australians Share Australia Day with the FSM

By **BILL JAYNES**
The Kaselehlie Press

The Australian Embassy could have cloistered themselves at the Embassy Compound on the 26th of January and celebrated Australia Day amongst themselves but they didn't. Instead they hired Misko's Restaurant at Pwohmaria Beach Resort and students from COM's Hospitality track and shared their day with the FSM.

Government officials from both State and National governments as well as the diplomatic corps were in attendance and enjoyed Australian beer, wine, and food including lamb meatballs.

The crowd was entertained for a few moments when Condor, a visiting Australian Yachtsman demonstrated the ancient indigenous musical instrument of Australia, the Didgeridoo which is made most often from wood from a eucalyptus tree that has been hollowed out by termites. The amazing and hypnotic instrument requires a special technique of breathing called circular breathing which allows the player to continuously sound a drone note while still being able to breath. The player expells air from his mouth while simultaneously breathing in through his nose. Condor played for the crowd, an uninterrupted piece of didgeridoo music for four or five minutes.

Ambassador Susan Cox hosted the celebration closing her remarks with a toast to the President, Government and the people of The Federated State of Micronesia.

During her short remarks she said that she felt it was a privilege for Australians to be guests in the FSM.

"Australia," she said, "is probably the only country in the world which celebrates it national day on the day it was colonized and commemorates its military forces on the day of its greatest military defeat. But that is not what Australia Day is really all about. On Australia Day, Australians come together to celebrate what's great about Australia and being Australian..."

She highlighted the engagement of Australians with their Pacific partners including the FSM. She spoke of the FSS Palikir, FSS Micronesia, and the FSS Independence as enduring symbols of that relationship. Australia has also helped with training of the national and state police forces.

Besides government to government relationships the Australia aided the FSM community as well through its Direct Aid Program and Small Grants Scheme for a range of worthwhile projects throughout the FSM.

"In conclusion, Australia is famous for many things - its beaches, surf (although I hear Pohnpei could challenge us there), Great Barrier Reef, Hollywood Actors, the Sydney Opera House and Harbour Bridge plus, of course, our great sense of humour and our love of food and wine.

"Tonight we have tapped into a small part of our unique culture..."

FSM's Secretary of Foreign Affairs Lorin Robert spoke as well saying that since the relationship between the FSM and Australia was formally forged on July 6, 1988, "our two countries have continued to work together as friends, and partners with common goals and aspirations that define and constitute the friendly bond that we have continued to enjoy and cherish to this very evening."

Occasional work opportunities

The Tuna Commission would appreciate expressions of interest from any persons qualified in administrative, secretarial and reception work that are available at short notice to fill in during staff absences. Those that indicate their availability will be placed on a register of temporary contractors to be engaged from time to time as the need arises. The fees paid will be competitive. Those interested should send a detailed resume, cover letter and contact details to the Executive Director, WCPFC, PO Box 2356, Kolonia as soon as practicable or email to kens@mail.fm. Any queries or requests for further information should be to the Finance and Administration Officer.

...Restraining Order

continued from page 1

On the day that PUC had announced as the date that bids would be opened MOMI filed a lawsuit because the process, in their view had been anything but open in terms of competition and in fact PUC had acted to eliminate MOMI's possibility of competing fairly for the fuel supply. This step was undertaken only after MOMI tried to point out to PUC and its legal counsel through correspondence the problem of their violation of 34 P.C. 1-112 of Pohnpei state law.

The lawsuit asked for a Temporary Restraining Order against the RFB process which they called a sham because of the agreement with a bidding party twelve days before the bids were to be opened. They also asked for a preliminary injunction to legally disallow the agreement made with the third party. Simultaneously they filed a motion that would set aside the agreement between PUC and the third

party if the court finds for the plaintiff.

Over the course of the next five days, PUC's lawyer, Joe Phillip filed to dismiss the civil actions filed by MOMI. MOMI's local counsel Fred Ramp countered the arguments of Phillip. The pleadings and exhibits amounted to over a hundred pages.

MOMI and PUC met before the Supreme Court on the 28th of January. The final PUC filing before Chief Justice Amaraich ruled on MOMI's request for a TRO and Preliminary Injunction was submitted by Attorney Phillip at 4:15 on the afternoon of that day.

It included a copy of the "MOU" between PUC and B&ST Co. Ltd with an address in Seoul, Korea.

The "MOU" turned out to actually be a three year Bunker (*a container or compartment for*

storing fuel such as on a ship) Supply Contract for fuel supply signed on the last full business day of former Governor Johnny David's administration, Friday, January 11. It was signed by then Governor David, the Chairman of the PUC Board Nelperson Etse, PUC General Manager Nixon Anson, PUC Comptroller Kelly Keller, PUC Legal Counsel Joe Phillip, Esquire, and the Vice President of B&ST Co. Ltd. At the time Salomon Saimon was Pohnpei State's Acting Attorney General. He signed the contract "as to form, and legal sufficiency."

The contract says that B&ST will sell diesel fuel to PUC at a cost of \$25 per barrel (a barrel is 42 gallons) above a four day average of the cost of the fuel when loaded onto the tanker. The price will be set according to the Platts Asia Pacific/Arab Gulf Marketscan under the Singapore heading for Gasoil Reg 0.5.

B&ST Co. Ltd. under the contract is to supply a barge with capacity of at least 270,000 gallons of fuel which will be moored in Pohnpei harbor at PUC's expense at a port area yet to be designated by the Pohnpei Port Authority. Expenses mentioned in the contract were mooring, unmooring, port dues, port charges, pilotage, tuggage and applicable transportation taxes incurred by the Seller in the delivery of the fuel.

Survey and insurance for the storage barge is to be done at B&ST's expense. However, the fuel in it, once it is delivered will be PUC's responsibility if there is any loss. B&ST under the contract has also agreed to provide a delivery truck to get the fuel from the barge and deliver it to PUC's fuel depot.

Mr. Phillip, when submitting the contract document to the court argued one more time that the fuel supply with Mobil ends on Thursday, January 31, 2008. He said that PUC had, that morning purchased from Mobil 100,000 gallons of fuel at a cost of \$406,000. The purchase order they had placed with B&ST for its first delivery which had been scheduled to arrive on February 5 was for 200,000 gallons of fuel at a price of \$614,000. He said that PUC is now importing its own fuel at \$200,000 less than what Mobil currently charges PUC.

Pohnpei State did not sign a contract with anyone for the delivery of fuel for vehicles or for jet fuel. If the contract between PUC and B&ST stands then there will be two tankers to deliver fuel for Pohnpei. Officials have been unable to determine whether the price of gasoline for cars or kerosene for jet fuel will rise as a result.

Amaraich, in his four and half page judgment granting the temporary restraining order among other things said essentially that the question is not whether or not PUC will save money. The question was whether or not PUC could have saved more money if they had followed procedure to allow for competition.

"But that did not happen. As a result the contract in question is open to speculation, including speculation whether B&ST Co., Ltd., offered its lowest price, since it was not offering that price in competition with any other bidders." He said that he could think of no reason why B&ST could not have submitted the proposal that was reflected in the January 11 contract competitively as a bid pursuant to the requirement of Pohnpei State law.

Amaraich ruled against all of the arguments offered by PUC in its motion to dismiss and granted the Temporary Restraining Order. He said that there was nothing to prevent PUC from initiating an entirely new bid process as opposed to merely continuing the process tainted by the January 11, 2008 contract. PUC has already begun that process. Amaraich said that B&ST can bid along with any other bidders during the new process.

As a result of the ruling PUC is enjoined (barred) from proceeding on the RFB for Diesel Fuel Supply that PUC let for bidding in mid-December. PUC is enjoined from "proceeding in any way directly or indirectly to perform, or receive performance under, that contract entered into between PUC and B&ST Co., Ltd. on January 11, 2008. Lastly, PUC is "enjoined from soliciting, entertaining, or negotiating directly or indirectly for any contracts for the supply of fuel to PUC except those contracts that are solicited in compliance with the procurement provisions of 34 P.C. 1-112."

The temporary restraining order is in effect until February 12 at 10:00 at which time the matter is set for further hearing.

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Our Lady of Mercy Vocational Training School

Kolonia , Pohnpei - Our Lady of Mercy Vocational Training School (OLMVTS) was founded on Sept 4, 1976. It was founded with the underlying principles for the development of young women who would otherwise not have access to formal education.

Since opening its doors over 30 years ago, OLMVTS has tried to promote the education of young women by adapting its curriculum and program to meet the changing needs and challenges of our island society. The school helps the young women to discover and develop their God-given talents and skills and to be confident, competent, and committed to use them at the service of their future families, local community, Church, and island nations.

For the past thirty two years OLMVTS has helped to broaden opportunities for the young women of Pohnpei and most recently and to a smaller scale, of Chuuk, and provide them with the skills and confidence to participate in the ecclesial, social, and economic activities that shape their lives and the future of their families, Church, and island nation.

In September of 2000, OLMVTS became a four-year alternative secondary education allowing the young women to work towards their High School Diploma. It integrates basic academic courses with a vocational education program. The academic courses and vocational program include Theology, Math, English, Biology, Nutrition, Health, Human Growth

& Development, Social Studies, Bookkeeping, Typing, Computer, Embroidery, Sewing, Cooking, and Home Gardening.

The inauguration of "Mother Ines" building, a two-story four-classroom building took place in November 2003, in the presence of the Spanish ambassador Ignacio Sagaz, FSM government officials, Amelia Kawaji, the Superior General of the Mercedarian Sisters, and many alumnae, friends, and families. This building was made possible with the financial help of the Agency for International Cooperation of the Spanish Government.

If you come around OLMVTS campus these days, you will see that another building project is underway. The school administration office, conference room/teachers lounge, and the sewing center will be located in this new building. The financial help for this building was provided by an NGO of Engineers for Cooperation in Bilbao, Spain. The building is scheduled to be completed by May 2008.

We invite each and every one of you to come and visit OLMVTS at any time. We would be very happy to show you around the campus and answer your questions. Our entrance test for the school is on March 8th at 8:30 AM at OLMVTS. Please bring \$3, two number 2 pencils, and a pencil sharpener. Thank you!

Our telephone number is: 320-3168
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Seen Any Good Movies Lately?



By N.N. Isaac
The Kaselehie Press

Spring, Summer, Fall, Winter, and Spring

If you fancy yourself a deep-thinker who would appreciate the subtle quality of breathtaking cinematography, and if you desire to be transported to a world of minimalistic perfection, have I got a movie for you! The DVD to look for is a Korean masterpiece written and directed by Ki-duk Kim, called "Spring, Summer, Fall, Winter, and Spring" (2003).

Don't worry, I'm not recommending one of those highly addictive, and unbelievably long Korean soap operas. Ki-duk Kim's unique film is set amidst a tiny Buddhist monastery that floats on a lake somewhere in the mountaintops of South Korea. The film's main storyline seasonally chronicles the life of a mischievous, young acolyte as he is raised by a wizened monk. Their idyllic existence of isolation, prayer, and meditation, is only broken when pilgrims come seeking holistic healing and redemption.

A couple of caveats: the movie is rated "R" for strong sexuality and the dialogue is in Korean with English subtitles. If you tend to shy away from movies that are subtitled, be assured that this picture is an exceptional instance in which the characters' actions possibly carry more impact than the words they speak.

The story, framed as a parable demonstrates Buddhist beliefs about karma, the extinction of self, the cyclical pattern of life, and the purpose of existence. "Spring, Summer, Fall, Winter, and Spring" is just the thing for a restorative and contemplative Sunday afternoon.

National Treasure: Book of Secrets

Now, if tranquility sounds more like 'tranquilizer' to you, this next movie might be more up your alley. If you enjoy big-budget, action-packed thrillers, you're in luck because "National Treasure: Book of Secrets" has finally hit theaters worldwide. Despite the fact that this latest Jerry Bruckheimer production sounds

more like the next installment in the Harry Potter series, "Book of Secrets" is guaranteed to satiate your need for fast-paced action and thrilling stunts.

In this sequel of "National Treasure" (2004), Nicholas Cage reprises his role as the renowned treasure hunter, Ben Gates. This time he's on a mission to vindicate his family's honor after a mysterious man accuses Gates' great-grandfather of masterminding Abraham Lincoln's assassination. In "Book of Secrets," Cage is rejoined by Justin Bartha and Diane Kruger, who respectively played Riley Poole and Abigail Chase in this movie's prequel. A new addition to the cast is Helen Mirren ("The Queen", 2006) who joins Jon Voight, as Ben's parents, Professor Emily Appleton and Patrick Gates.

I do have to say that there are moments of unbearable corniness in this movie. It's also easy to overlook Cage's annoying eyeliner amidst all the twists, turns, somersaults, and triple Sal chows that the storyline undergoes. It does seem as if the writers of this movie (and there were many of them) decided to throw the whole bag of tricks at us in order to engage our fickle attention spans.

For the most part, if you don't mind the historical inaccuracies (a given whenever Hollywood tries to make history entertaining for the masses), and its slightly over-complicated plot, "Book of Secrets" is sure-fire entertainment, and you should put it on your list of movies to watch. This picture is rated PG for some violence and sometimes intense action.

If you're in Pohnpei you might be able to catch it while it's still showing at Pohnpei Center Cinemas. If not, you should definitely look for it when it comes out on DVD later this year.

A Mighty Heart

Foreign films and blockbusters aside, if you pay any attention to movie award shows, this next film might be of interest to you. "A Mighty Heart" (2007) stars Angelina Jolie as Mariane Pearl in this gut-wrenching drama that recounts the true story of the 2002 terrorist abduction of her husband,

Wall Street Journal writer Daniel Pearl in Karachi, Pakistan. This moving story has garnered lots of praise for Ms. Jolie's performance, and has resulted in her nomination for a Golden Globe, and for an Actor at the SAG (Screen Actors Guild) Awards, not to mention other nominations at numerous film festivals.

Having just watched this harrowing movie, its scenes are still fresh in my mind. Truth be told, "A Mighty Heart" was really hard to watch. However, what's even more difficult to face is that if there wasn't a movie about this tragic occurrence, Daniel Pearl's story may well have been forgotten amongst the countless casualties of the war in the Middle East. This movie is a lot like "Hotel

Rwanda" (2004), and other true-life stories of people who've experienced unspeakable atrocities at the hands of fellow human beings. If you're already familiar with this story, don't let it stop you from watching the movie. On the other hand, if you're like me, still unfamiliar and— at times— unforgivably detached from the reality of what's happening in this world today, this film is an absolute must-see.

This movie is rated R for language, and is available on DVD. If you decide to watch "A Mighty Heart", you won't regret it. There may be times when you will be tempted to stop the movie; however, I encourage you to see this very worthy film till the bitter end. On that note, all that is left to say is: until next time, be kind, rewind, and watch for it on DVD.

Letters to the Editor

We All Have a Duty to Find Power Solutions

It is important that we all do what we can as individuals to conserve power and to avoid wasting energy when possible by choosing more efficient household appliances from light bulbs to washing machines or even a more fuel-efficient vehicle.

However, energy conservation and other related power issues are simply not the concerns of our citizens. The government also must be charged to do its part on our island. The people must be able to trust the government to ensure that power needs will be consistently met in a reasonably fair and efficient manner.

The government of Kosrae must monitor and regulate utility agencies such as the Kosrae Utility Authority to verify that the product they offer and the price at which it is delivered are in the best interest of the people.

Our legislature should research and recognize issues surrounding one of the islands's most needed and sought after service. Nowadays, it costs more per household for electricity than to buy clothes

and school supplies for our children. And pretty soon the cost of electricity will surpass cost of food. The legislature has to introduce solutions to some of the energy problems we can expect to face as our island's population grows.

As responsible citizens, we all have a duty to our island and to our neighbors to do what we can to keep our island safe, clean, beautiful and livable. It is important that our island begin finding alternative sources of power now in order to proactively address problems that will arise in the near future. Other companies should be allowed to enter the market and compete to provide residents with safe and reliable power which in turn will create abundance of power and lower prices for both the consumer and the government.

We must think ahead on the issue of electrical power needs for our island, and welcome much needed start in the right direction toward energy conservation and reduced energy costs.

Grant Ismael
Kosrae, FSM

Collector looking for Collectable Coins
If you think you may have a coin of value to a coin collector contact
Tim McVey at 320-7496

Letters to the Editor

BNN

By Bermin F. Weillbacher

Waste Management and Pohnpei State

Dear Editor,

This letter hopefully will serve two purposes. First, for those who don't know how frustrating it can be, I want to provide an idea of what can go wrong when dealing with the state government in a contractual business relationship. Maybe the new administration can take a good hard look and the future will see some improvement. The second purpose of this letter is to explain to our local and off-island vendors why it took us so long to pay our bills, and thank those who still permitted us make purchases, even though our accounts were ninety days, or more, overdue.

As many people residing on this island know, Pohnpei Waste Management Services (PWMS) is a local business which has been around for just about ten years providing trash collection service to about 80 customers including schools, stores, hotels, churches, and a number of private residences. PWMS also has a contractual arrangement with the state government to manage the day-to-day operations at the Dekehtik dumpsite. Anyone who attempted to discard trash at the dump prior to 1998 can attest to how horrible, and dangerous, a task it was. And there was usually trash and garbage flowing on to the road surface, a nice welcome and goodbye sight for our tourists.

Although solid waste management is actually a "utility" kind of service, just like electricity, water, and sewer, services that essentially are needed every day, the term of our contract has always been just one year, expiring with the end of the fiscal year on September 30. Every year, in the beginning of August I always send a reminder to the government office (I'll call it Office X) which handles our contract, and a second reminder at the beginning of September. I would visit Office X with a third reminder about two weeks later. These reminders were a waste of time since September 30 would come and go and nothing would happen except that payments for doing the work at the dump would stop, since the contract had expired. None of the processes needed to renew the contract had been initiated. There has never been a smooth transition. Not once in ten years have we received an on-time payment for October's work.

Every year, we would be asked by Office X to continue the daily operations at the dump—no one wanted trash on the roadway again. We were able to work without payment for a couple of months because the collection side of the business was able to subsidize the dump operation for a short time. It

was kind of like a forced savings plan.

This year, FY 2008, was no different. FY 2007's contract expired, and by October 1 no steps had been initiated for a new one. Finally, after a few more "reminder" visits, a bid deadline was established, 26 October (for a project due to start on 1 October). PWMS was awarded the contract in early November and then contract paperwork sat in another office (I'll call it Office Y) for a month, awaiting approval. I was off island for a short time and upon returning wanted to find out where the paperwork had got to. Apparently the individual in Office Y thought that the documents referred some other project and no rush was necessary.

Then the paperwork had to be approved by the state's four-member contract review board. This proved to be a challenge because one of the members had died and one was very sick—no quorum possible. So, some more delay while new members were appointed. Some more delay while most of the executive branch had a two week holiday vacation, and then just a bit of more delay when the contract paperwork was misplaced when Office X moved, due to the construction of the new state office building.

By this time we're into the second week of January and funds to operate PWMS responsibilities at the dump are getting tight. Fuel (our biggest expense) is approaching \$5 per gallon and last quarter's Social Security tax payment is due. We've never missed a payday, but if we can't buy fuel some of our employees have no work to do. One division of the company subsidizing the other is no longer an option, that requires some funds somewhere. I adopted a more aggressive strategy, by actually going to an office and sitting and waiting until a name is written, and I get two more signatures in two days. It takes a while and although I can read a magazine while waiting, I'm not getting much other work done.

Finally, we are off to Office Z, the place where they print and issue checks. Here, once again, there are obstacles to overcome. It takes a number of e-mails, a couple more meetings and another week, until on January 22, the contract has been signed, a payment requested, and a check received. On the 23rd we're writing check to our vendors.

I don't mean to bore your readers with this company's problems, nevertheless I feel certain that there are some other businesses on Pohnpei that have suffered through similar experiences. After reading the *Getting in the Way of Prosperity: The Seven Deadly Sins* by David B. Cohen, in a recent issue

The opinions expressed in the BNN Column are those of the author.

Note: This Column appears bi-weekly in the Kaselehlie Press. Bloggers can also find it in <http://bnnpni.blogspot.com> under PROS N CONS.

The guessing game and speculating is now in Pohnpei's court....

Remember when the new FSM Government was installed in May 2007 and inaugurated 4 months later? The buzzword in town was who would be so and so and so in the cabinet, etc. Well now the buzzword is now in a different setting.

Inaugurated on January 14, 2008, the new Pohnpei State Administration is taking time and maintaining status quo while working on the bigger things. A proposed Executive Organization plan was the first major task of the new administration. During the process, the buzzword was who would be so and so in the new administration. We now know that the Iso Nahniken of U Municipality, Mr. Ihlen Joseph, formerly in the FSM Department of Finance, has been tapped by the new Governor as his Chief of Staff. Also McGarry Mikel, former Chief Executive (Luhken Moanlap) of Kitti Municipality, is the new Public Information Officer.

Presently the Organization Plan is with the Legislature. Once the Legislature approves the plan, the Governor will then be in a position to fill those cabinet posts with his nominations. Membership in commissions, boards and agencies will be part of the process.

PUC's plan to obtain it's own fuel supply ended up not in a barge but in a court room with a TRO...

In the waning days of the previous administration, a contract was signed between Pohnpei State /PUC and an overseas fuel distributor to supply fuel to PUC. The plan was to bring a barge full of fuel and distribute to PUC but apparently the deal was not done in accordance with bidding requirements so one of the bidders is suing for a TRO until the matter is cleared up.

Palikir Pass in fame...

The water off the Palikir Pass is creating some international wave and fame to boot. A lot of surfers have come to Pohnpei to check it out and with them they inject a lot of needed cash into the economy. I am told that champion surfers were among those who wanted to check out "P Pass" as it is known worldwide. Kudos to Allois and his Pohnpei Surfing enterprise.



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of the newspaper, I was motivated to write this letter. I didn't just "get off the boat" yesterday, and I understand that sometimes it takes a while to get things done. But our governments **have** to do better than this.

Robert Spegal
PWMS

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12
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54						55				56			
57						58				59			

GRAND TALE

<p>32. Make it read better</p> <p>33. Trifling</p> <p>34. ___ American Cousin</p> <p>35. Believe it or ___!</p> <p>36. Hindu honorifics</p> <p>37. Marmaduke's treat</p> <p>38. Bring to court</p> <p>39. Grand tale</p> <p>40. Timeworn</p> <p>41. Freshwater fish</p> <p>42. Edens</p> <p>43. Not a big talker</p> <p>46. Conramlate</p> <p>48. Bad smell</p> <p>49. Drink with tequila</p> <p>54. Kid</p> <p>55. Carve</p> <p>56. Admit frankly</p> <p>57. Something to swear</p> <p>58. Empty ___</p> <p>59. Kind</p> <p>DOWN</p> <p>1. Called the shots</p> <p>2. You ___ There</p> <p>3. Cauldron</p> <p>4. Fiery remnant</p> <p>5. Where to find 4 Down</p> <p>6. Fix a piano</p> <p>7. Peppy</p> <p>8. Infuriated</p>	<p>9. Brief light</p> <p>10. Priest of the East</p> <p>11. Goals</p> <p>12. Those in the know</p> <p>17. Not fictitious</p> <p>21. Love</p> <p>22. Churchgoers</p> <p>23. Vamoose</p> <p>25. Mare's meal</p> <p>26. It's the limit</p> <p>27. Brief home</p> <p>28. Make rules</p> <p>29. It lays an egg</p> <p>30. Female family members</p> <p>31. What is sought</p> <p>33. Nickname for Dad</p> <p>36. "___, though I walk..."</p> <p>37. Vehicle in <i>Speed</i></p> <p>40. Common first (or second) word</p> <p>41. Train bunk</p> <p>42. "There ___ to be a law"</p> <p>43. Austin Powers's aura</p> <p>44. Thought</p> <p>45. Practically all</p> <p>47. Pendulum paths</p> <p>49. Chess pieces</p> <p>50. <i>Brother</i> ___</p> <p>51. Wall creeper</p> <p>52. Summit</p> <p>53. Wow</p>
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- ACROSS
- | | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Volcano output | 15. Cozy place | 21. Pond scum |
| 5. Goblet feature | 16. Ousted | 24. Gee whiz! |
| 9. Entrance to 27 Down | 18. Mercenary's need | 27. Place for a nature walk |
| 13. Good times | 19. "... happily ___ after" | 28. Escaped info |
| 14. Sushi fish | 20. Talk back | 29. Break |

K-Press Puzzle Pleasure
SOLUTION IN NEXT ISSUE

Form a continuous chain of looped words. The last letter of each word is the first letter of the next. We have started you off with the first two words in each puzzle.
Beware of false paths!

Heads & Tails

<p>PILLOW (6)</p> <p>WORLD (5)</p> <p>(7) N I C K D E V E L O P Y</p> <p>(7) T E L L C I C E S U O H</p> <p>(7) N O R D U A N N D L S T</p> <p>(4) A O L O K E N D P O U R</p> <p>(5) W P L O R C I K T U N O</p> <p>(5) O E E G A N R Y E A R N</p> <p>(5) L N Y R G A R N I S H U</p> <p>(6) L A E C M R A N E O E T</p> <p>(4) I T A E U L G A S I L T</p> <p>(6) P U R H T U R T T S P Y</p>	<h3>Puzzle A</h3>	<p>SOUTH (5)</p> <p>HORSE (5)</p> <p>(7) L O V E L Y U T S O L N</p> <p>(5) E L L A B O R R C S A A</p> <p>(6) T O S A U U O E T H M M</p> <p>(5) S P U T O N C A R A R E</p> <p>(6) O I R U N G I R L U O D</p> <p>(6) H T U O Y S S E L D N E</p> <p>(5) S E A S Y T I L E N D S</p> <p>(5) E L I M N I R L L B U R</p> <p>(5) P O E P A L E N O I S O</p> <p>(6) N E T S I L Y S O U T H</p>
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Who Is the Best Man?

You might think we are going to be talking about a wedding. We are not. I was thinking about the selection God made when he needed an earthly father for his one and only Son, Jesus. Jesus had the perfect Father in heaven for ever and ever in the past, but God had something new planned for that first Christmas in a little has-been country. It was only a spot on the map in 3 BC because the Assyrians, Babylonians, Greeks and Romans had all conquered it with little trouble. In the place called Israel and the time of the Roman Empire, God needed a man to take care of the earthly, physical needs of a God-man who would have a baby's body.

Joseph, husband of Mary sneaks onto the pages of scripture. We are

not told about his family or background. The Gospels are about Jesus so they start with him and briefly refer to Joseph, who people thought was the father of Jesus. All the people around Nazareth knew that Mary got a head-start on childbearing and it was shameful that Joseph's first-born was not really his!

What are we told about this man Joseph, given this heavenly responsibility to be carried out on earth? He was a carpenter. Not a grand architect and builder of temples and palaces but a simple, village carpenter who made tables and chairs and did projects with wood.

Matthew records that Joseph "being a just man and unwilling to cause Mary shame, decided to put her away quietly." What is a just man? For a Jew this could only

mean one thing. A man concerned with following the rules. Whose rules? God's! Jews knew who made the world and had the right to write the rules. By the rules of Israel, Mary had committed a great sin and Joseph had every legal right to divorce her and this just man decided he must do so.

But, he was also a kind man. He did not want to cause Mary shame. He did not want an ugly, public scene where Mary would be humiliated and scorned by her own people and maybe even executed. Many years later Paul would write to Christians, "speak the truth in love." We can follow the rules without being mean and cruel in the way we do it, even when we are personally hurt as Joseph was.

But this time God was introducing grace, a better plan than the law. He sent an angel to Joseph who shared what the future would be. He told Joseph, don't be afraid to marry Mary. God is doing something spectacularly unusual. Your assignment is to be a husband to this woman and a father to my son, the God-man. Name him Jesus, because He will save people from their sins. Joseph woke up from his dream and did just what he was told. Two more times in the story of Jesus' birth, Joseph is visited by an angel in his dreams. Three times he immediately obeyed and each time it was critically important for the safety of Mary and Jesus that he did. Fathers are called by God to protect. God has built men that way. It is hard-wired into them. When they fail to protect their families, it is because of sin in each man born in this sinful world. As Joseph's story quickly fades from the pages of scripture, we see him always protecting, always following the rules; being a father! He is there at the temple when Jesus is circumcised and named. He leaves in the middle of the night to escape to Egypt. He is there watching and teaching his son as he grows up. He is leading his family to Jerusalem each year for Passover and is beside Mary as they

for a lost twelve-year-old who is giving a visiting students and teachers of the law.

at God's choice for a father to Jesus. We are wise if we try to be like him as parents. Teach your children to follow the rules. Use words but be an example first! Be kind in your dealings with people when you must apply the rules. Fathers, be involved in the lives of your children. Protect your families and lead them in the things of God. Take them with you to worship as you live your life of faith. Remember Joseph, God's best man to be a father to Jesus. No words of Joseph are recorded in scripture, but his life echoes down through history like the steady roar of the ocean.

Gary Gardell

Astronomical Tide Prediction February 6 - 19, 2007				
	POHNPEI, KOSRAE		CHUUK	
Wednesday	06 Wed 03:28AM 2.5 08:39AM 0.9 03:12PM 4.4 10:01PM 0.2	13 Wed 12:13AM 0.8 06:48AM 3.3 01:03PM 1.5 06:20PM 2.5	06 Wed 04:02AM 0.4 06:42AM 0.3 02:22PM 2.3 10:07PM -0.4	13 Wed 05:30AM 1.5 11:57AM 0.8 01:57PM 0.9 09:52PM -0.1
Thursday	07 Thu 03:51AM 2.8 09:14AM 0.7 03:43PM 4.5 10:23PM 0.1	14 Thu 12:28AM 1.1 07:41AM 3.1 02:46PM 1.9 05:56PM 2.0	07 Thu 03:50AM 0.5 07:30AM 0.2 02:49PM 2.4 10:16PM -0.3	14 Thu 06:07AM 1.5 09:31PM -0.3
Friday	08 Fri 04:16AM 3.1 09:48AM 0.6 04:13PM 4.5 10:47PM 0.2	15 Fri 12:27AM 1.3 09:35AM 3.0 09:37PM 1.3	08 Fri 03:54AM 0.7 08:10AM 0.2 03:15PM 2.3 10:26PM -0.2	15 Fri 07:29AM 1.5 09:24PM -0.5
Saturday	09 Sat 04:42AM 3.3 10:22AM 0.6 04:42PM 4.3 11:10PM 0.3	16 Sat 12:20PM 3.2 08:42PM 1.0	09 Sat 04:07AM 0.8 08:49AM 0.3 03:38PM 2.1 10:34PM -0.1	16 Sat 12:13PM 1.8 09:28PM -0.6
Sunday	10 Sun 05:09AM 3.4 10:57AM 0.6 05:11PM 4.0 11:33PM 0.4	17 Sun 02:52AM 1.9 06:07AM 1.7 01:25PM 3.7 08:53PM 0.7	10 Sun 04:23AM 1.0 09:27AM 0.3 03:56PM 1.8 10:37PM 0.0	17 Sun 12:54PM 2.0 09:36PM -0.6
Monday	11 Mon 05:39AM 3.4 11:33AM 0.8 05:38PM 3.6 11:54PM 0.6	18 Mon 02:47AM 2.2 07:23AM 1.4 02:07PM 4.0 09:11PM 0.4	11 Mon 04:41AM 1.2 10:07AM 0.5 04:04PM 1.4 10:31PM 0.1	18 Mon 01:27PM 2.2 09:44PM -0.5
Tuesday	12 Tue 06:11AM 3.4 12:13PM 1.1 06:02PM 3.1	19 Tue 03:02AM 2.5 08:09AM 1.0 02:42PM 4.3 09:31PM 0.3	12 Tue 05:03AM 1.4 10:50AM 0.7 03:43PM 1.1 10:16PM 0.0	19 Tue 01:55PM 2.3 09:49PM -0.4

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FSM Congress Delegation Held Public Hearings in Yap

Yap Department of Youth and Civic Affairs

The FSM Congress Committees on Judiciary and Government Operations, Resources and Development, and External Affairs held a public hearing on fourteen pending bills and resolutions in the Yap State Legislative Chamber throughout the day. These bills include: CB 15-43, which proposes to enact a new Title 13 of the FSM Code pertaining to financial disclosures, political campaign financing and financial reporting; CB 15-75 seeking admission of the State of Faichuuk as the fifth State of the FSM; and other bills focus on immigration laws, the Public Service System, and membership term on certain national boards. All the resolutions were on President's nominations of various posts within the national government and the overseas missions.

In his introductory remark, Lieu-

tenant Governor Tony Tareg informed visiting committee members and staff that due to short notice, the executive branch is not readily prepared to provide extensive comments and input on these measures. He assures the Congressmen and their staff that the Government will work diligently on putting together their coordinated comments and forward them to Palikir in due course. Senator Sitan who led the delegation responded saying they would appreciate any written comments by first week of February as the committees hope to report on these proposed legislations in the upcoming special session around the same time.

Attending the hearings were both FSM and State Speakers, members of the Yap State 7th Legislature, Lt. Governor Tareg and members of the cabinet, various agency heads, government officials and the general public.

COMMUNITY BULLETIN

- Alcoholics Anonymous meets every Wednesday at Cantero Hall at the Roman Catholic Vicariate office at 7:00 p.m. Public welcome. For details, call 320-8365.
- Pohnpei Lions Club meets monthly every 4th Tuesday at Cliff Rainbow Restaurant at 6:30p.m. Public Welcome.
- The Christian Ministerial Association of Pohnpei meets the third Wednesday of each month at 10:00 a.m. in Cantero Hall at the Roman Catholic vicariate office.
- Devotions every Sunday 9:30 a.m. at the Bahai Center in Dolonier. For details, call 320-2182.
- Habitat for Humanity Pohnpei holds their meetings every Tuesday from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at the Sei Restaurant.
- Soccer practice/games at PICS field Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 5:30 p.m. Everyone welcome.
- The Rotary Club of Pohnpei holds its weekly meetings Thursdays at 12:15 p.m. at PCR Nantehlik.
- St John's Catholic Church in Kosrae conducts services every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. For further information, call 370-3240 or 370-3209.
- FANGO holds its monthly Issue Based Dialogue (IBD) on the last Wednesday of each Month at the Sei Restaurant at 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.. The public is welcome.
- The Rotary Club of Truk Lagoon holds its weekly meetings every Wednesday at 12:00 Noon at the Truk Stop Hotel Restaurant VIP Room. You are welcome to attend and can contact us at rotarycluboftruklagoon@yahoo.com

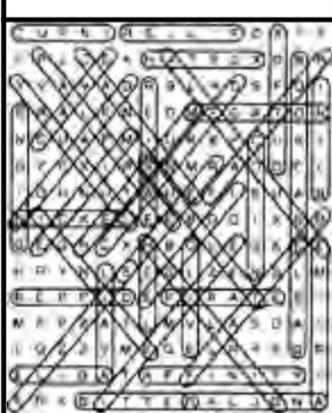
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The deadline for Ads, News Items, or Letters to the Editor for the next issue is February 15

LAST Issue's Solution
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Karat Coconut Jam, A Tasty New Food Product

By **Dr. LOIS ENGLBERGER**
Pohnpei Island Food Community

A new Karat Coconut Jam product, reported as using 20% Karat banana added, is now available in two shops in Pohnpei, Palm Terrace Shopping Center and Yoshies Enterprise. This jam has been developed and produced by the FSM Coconut Development Authority, using a base of the coconut product that has been available for several years.

This is a great new island food product for family meals, special events, or gifts. It has health benefits due to the unique properties of Karat, rich in provitamin A and other carotenoids, riboflavin (vitamin B2) and other essential nutrients. Coconut is a traditional food, new research confirming that it is particularly healthy when eaten along with a traditional diet and lifestyle, including sufficient physical activity.

On Tuesday 29 January, a free tasting and sampling session was held outside Palm Terrace Shopping Center, as provided by the Island Food Community of Pohnpei. The Karat jam was spread onto bite-size pieces of cooked giant swamp taro (mwahng) and yam (keh) and offered to all entering the shop and staff who were available.

Over 70 people tried the jam, including around 20 children, and there was a lot of interest. People nodded their heads and said "Io!"

A number of these people bought the jam, showing the IFCP team the purchased jam jar as they left the shop.

Samples were provided at several



photo by Dr. Lois Englberger

A jar of Karat Coconut Jam is held by Palm Terrace Shopping Center staff Yulanda Hedgar, with happy customers on the left, and Island Food Community of Pohnpei staff on the right. The platter in the front presents the slices of yam and giant swamp taro, spread with Karat Coconut Jam.

other recent workshops in Pohnpei and participants tasting the jam were enthusiastic about this product.

Note that there is a sticker on the top of the jar saying "Karat Banana Added". The regular label is the same as that for coconut jam as the new label for the Karat jam has not yet been printed. Strin-

gent cleanliness and food safety rules are maintained by the producers so that buyers can be assured of a good safe product.

We need to remember that small amounts of any jam should be consumed, as sugar consumption should be minimized for health reasons.

But a bit of Karat jam spread onto yam, taro, or breadfruit, is a great start to the day. The jam can also be spread onto bread and consumed in this usual way. However, people are encouraged to try it on local food if possible, due to the great health benefits of all our local island foods.

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Pohnpei Competitor's Association

VOLLEYBALL STANDINGS

MADOLENIHMW HS – WOMEN

RK	TEAM	GP	W	L	PCT
1	Section 3	6	5	1	0.833
2	Section 1	4	3	1	0.750
3T	Section 4	4	2	2	0.500
3T	Section 6	8	4	4	0.500
3T	Section 2	4	2	2	0.500
6	Section 7	5	2	3	0.400
7	Section 5	5	0	5	0.000

MADOLENIHMW HS – MEN

RK	TEAM	GP	W	L	PCT
1	Section 1	4	4	0	1.000
2	Section 6	5	4	1	0.800
3	Section 5	6	4	2	0.667
4	Section 2	5	3	2	0.600
5	Section 3	6	2	4	0.333
6T	Section 4	6	0	6	0.000
6T	Section 7	2	0	2	0.000

COM-FSM PNI CAMPUS-MEN

RK	TEAM	GP	W	L	PCT
1T	Madnimw	3	3	0	1.000
1T	Kitti	1	1	0	1.000
3	PNI Camp	4	2	2	0.500
4	A&P	3	1	2	0.333
5T	Nett	2	0	2	0.000
5T	Uwak	1	0	1	0.000

COM-FSM NAT'L CAMPUS-MEN

RK	TEAM	GP	W	L	PCT
1	Mortlocks	10	7	3	0.700
2	PNI Camp	9	6	3	0.667
3	Nukap	10	6	4	0.600
4	Nat'l Camp	12	7	5	0.583
5	Chuuk	11	6	5	0.545
6	Pingmok	7	3	4	0.429
7	Yap	9	2	7	0.222
8	Kosrae	8	1	7	0.125

COM-FSM NAT'L CAMPUS-WOMEN

RK	TEAM	GP	W	L	PCT
1	Nukap	10	9	1	0.900
2	PNI-Camp	10	7	3	0.700
3	Chuuk	12	5	7	0.583
4	Kosrae	10	5	5	0.500
5	Yap	10	4	6	0.400
6	Pingmok	10	3	7	0.300
7	Mortlock	8	2	6	0.250
8	Nat'l Camp	6	1	5	0.167

RK=Rank GP=Games Played W=Win
L=Lost PCT=Winning % (W/GP)

CHESS CLUB STANDINGS

SDA SCHOOL – Top 10

RK	PLAYER	GP	W	L	D	PCT
1T	Mr. J Winnel	7	7	0	0	1.000
1T	Jaefrey Gab	1	1	0	0	1.000
1T	Mr. Sexton	1	1	0	0	1.000
1T	Marg Worswick	3	3	0	0	1.000
1T	Lauren Treacy	1	1	0	0	1.000
1T	Pauline	1	1	0	0	1.000
7	Lloyd Yam	1	1	0	0	1.000
8	Winnel	14	11	1	2	1.000
9	Jomar Basig	8	6	1	1	0.750
10	Josie Basig	19	14	1	4	0.737

BASKETBALL STANDINGS

MADOLENIHMW HS – WOMEN

RK	TEAM	GP	W	L	PCT
1T	Section 6	4	4	0	1.000
1T	Section 3	3	3	0	1.000
1T	Section 2	2	2	0	1.000
4	Section 4	7	4	3	0.571
5	Section 1	5	1	4	0.200
6	Section 7	7	1	6	0.143
7	Section 5	2	0	2	0.000

MADOLENIHMW HS – MEN

RK	TEAM	GP	W	L	PCT
1	Section 7	9	9	0	1.000
2T	Section 4	2	1	1	0.500
2T	Section 6	4	2	2	0.500
4	Section 5	3	1	2	0.333
5	Section 2	4	1	3	0.250
6T	Section 3	3	0	3	0.000
6T	Section 1	3	0	3	0.000

PICS

RK	TEAM	GP	W	L	PCT
1	Sokehs	5	5	0	1.000
2	Nett	5	4	1	0.800
3T	Kapinga	5	2	3	0.400
3T	UH	5	2	3	0.400
3T	Sapwufik	5	2	3	0.333
6	Mix Group	3	1	2	0.000
7T	Kolonia	2	0	2	0.000
7T	Pingelap	2	0	2	0.000

COM-FSM PNI CAMPUS

RK	TEAM	GP	W	L	PCT
1T	Sokehs B	1	1	0	1.000
1T	Sapwufik	1	1	0	1.000
3	Nett	4	3	1	0.750
4T	Mad Copra	3	2	1	0.667
4T	Sokes Jok	3	2	1	0.667
6T	Mochuk	1	0	1	0.000
6T	Kitti	2	0	2	0.000
6T	Kolonia	2	0	2	0.000
6T	Mojuu Jok	1	0	1	0.000

COM-FSM NAT'L CAMPUS-WOMEN

RK	TEAM	GP	W	L	PCT
1T	Nat'l Camp	10	3	7	0.700
1T	PNI Camp	10	3	7	0.700
1T	Yap	10	3	7	0.700
4	Chuuk	9	5	4	0.556
5	Mortlock	5	2	3	0.400
6	Nukap	6	2	4	0.333
7T	Kosrae	6	0	6	0.000
7T	Pingmok	6	0	6	0.000

COM-FSM NAT'L CAMPUS-MEN

RK	TEAM	GP	W	L	PCT
1	Yap	11	9	2	0.818
2	Chuuk	12	9	3	0.750
3	Mortlock	11	6	5	0.545
4T	Nat'l Camp	10	5	5	0.500
4T	Kosrae	8	4	4	0.500
6	PNI Camp	10	4	6	0.400
7	Pingmok	7	1	6	0.143
8	Nukap	7	0	7	0.000

MADOLENIHMW HS – Top 10

RK	PLAYER	GP	W	L	D	PCT
1T	Yolanda Patr	1	1	0	0	1.000
1T	Thomas Brand	2	2	0	0	1.000
1T	June Ada	1	1	0	0	1.000
4	Arran Hamm	11	10	1	0	0.909
5	Celestine Ada	68	40	27	1	0.588
6	June Celestine	7	4	2	1	0.571
7	Harvin Hinga	20	11	9	0	0.550
8	Leo Henry	51	27	23	1	0.529
9	Stravin Albert	29	15	13	1	0.517
10T	Lerisa John	2	1	1	0	0.500
10T	Anorlyn Hel	2	1	1	0	0.500
10T	Person Hemil	2	1	1	0	0.500
10T	Naysleen Frd	2	1	1	0	0.500

MONOPOLY STANDINGS

SDA – TOP 10

RK	PLAYER	GP	AFP
1T	Pete Jesse	1	1.000
1T	Benjamin	1	1.000
1T	Fab Nemea	1	1.000
1T	Locklan King	1	1.000
5	Travis Halbert	18	1.610
6	Nathan Namp	3	1.670
7	Ron David	9	1.890
8	Daniel Johnny	6	1.920
9	Jordan Jano	21	1.950
10T	Tyron Jano	4	2.250
10T	JB Palik	4	2.250

MADOLENIHMW HS – TOP 10

SDA-HS – TOP 10

RK	PLAYER	GP	AFP
1	Luke	1	1.000
2	Ms. Villegas	10	1.050
3T	Nicole	2	1.500
3T	Brendan Yam	6	1.500
5	Lia Panuelo	6	1.830
6T	Yuta	1	2.000
6T	Tyrone	1	2.000
1	Morgan Elms	6	1.500
2	Charlotte Suz	15	1.800
3	Alison	2	2.000
4	Melanie	2	2.000
4	Lony Ohry	5	2.200

SOFTBALL STANDINGS

MADOLENIHMW HS – WOMEN

RK	TEAM	GP	W	L	PCT
1	Section 2	6	6	0	1.000
2	Section 4	7	5	2	0.714
3	Section 7	5	3	2	0.600
4	Section 3	8	4	4	0.500
5	Section 5	9	3	6	0.333
6	Section 6	5	1	4	0.200
7	Section 1	2	0	2	0.000

MADOLENIHMW HS – MEN

RK	TEAM	GP	W	L	PCT
1	Section 4	9	8	1	0.889
2	Section 2	5	3	2	0.600
3	Section 3	7	4	3	0.571
4	Section 7	6	3	3	0.500
5T	Section 5	6	1	5	0.167
5T	Section 6	6	1	5	0.167
7	Section 1	1	0	1	0.000

SCRABBLE STANDINGS

MADOLENIHMW HS – TOP

RK	PLAYER	GP	AFP
1	Nick Henley	27	1.480
2	Herney Ring	21	1.620
2	Gladwin T	15	1.670
3	Pauleen Ros	4	1.750
4	Willard A.	5	2.400
5	Starsky P	3	2.670

RK=Rank GP=Games Played
AFP=Average Finish Position



Pohnpei 5K FUN WALK/RUN
Pohnpei Rotary Club Scholarship Fundraiser
01 March 2008

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